

FROM THE PAGES OF **The BOYS**

BUTCHER

BAKER, CANDLESTICKMAKER

DYNAMITE 5



DYNAMITE.NET



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FROM THE PAGES OF **The BOYS.**

BUTCHER

BAKER, CANDLESTICKMAKER.

In a world where costumed heroes soar through the sky and masked vigilantes prowl the night, someone's got to make sure the "supes" don't get out of line. And someone will.



Billy Butcher, Wee Hughie, Mother's Milk, The Frenchman and The Female are The Boys: a CIA-backed team of very dangerous people, each one dedicated to the struggle against the most lethal force on Earth- superpower. Some superheroes have to be watched. Some have to be controlled. And some of them- sometimes- need to be taken out of the picture.

That's when you call in **The Boys.**

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GARTH ENNIS

Colors by:
TONY AVIÑA

Art by:
DARICK ROBERTSON

Cover by:
DARICK ROBERTSON

Letters by:
SIMON BOWLAND

The Boys Created By:
ENNIS & ROBERTSON

DYNAMITE
ENTERTAINMENT



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BECKY WAS
MINE...BUT THE
WORLD LOST
HER.

SHE WAS A
LOSS TO THE
WORLD.

THAT'S WHAT
I'DVE SAID AT HER
FUNERAL, EXCEPT
I NEVER GOT TO
GO.

**5. HERE COMES A CANDLE
TO LIGHT YOU TO BED**



AT THE MOMENT, YOUR WIFE DIED OF INTERNAL HEMORRHAGING BROUGHT ON BY A MISCARRIAGE. NEITHER OF YOU KNEW SHE WAS PREGNANT. YOU'RE CURRENTLY IN DEEP SHOCK. YOU'VE BEEN SEDATED FOR YOUR OWN PROTECTION.

BUT THAT CAN CHANGE.

YOU CAN HAVE KILLED HER. YOU CAN HAVE CUT HER OPEN AND KILLED THE BABY. INSANE WITH RAGE WHEN SHE TOLD YOU SHE WAS CARRYING HER LOVER'S CHILD.

CONSIDERING YOUR PAST, IT WOULDN'T BE A HARD ONE TO SELL. PEOPLE WHO KNOW YOU MIGHT BE APPALLED, BUT THEY WOULDN'T BE PARTICULARLY SURPRISED.

YOUR MOTHER INCLUDED.



WHICH STORY GOES OUT DEPENDS ON WHETHER YOU SIGN THIS.



NON-DISCLOSURE, CONFIDENTIALITY, ETCETERA...

YOU AIN'T THE OLD BILL.



NO, I'M NOT. YOU CAN PROBABLY GUESS WHO I AM.

YOU'VE BEEN ON OUR SIDE, SO YOU KNOW THE RESOURCES WE HAVE AT OUR DISPOSAL.



I
KNOW YOU
KNOW.

YOU HAVEN'T
COMPLAINED ABOUT BEING
BROUGHT HERE. HAVEN'T
DEMANDED TO SEE WHO'S IN
CHARGE. ONCE THE SHOCK
OF THE INCIDENT ITSELF
WORE OFF YOU UNDERSTOOD
PRECISELY WHAT WAS
HAPPENING.

YOU'VE SAT
ALONE IN AN INTERVIEW
ROOM FOR FOURTEEN
HOURS, BECAUSE YOU
KNEW IMPLICITLY THAT
TO QUERY OR OBJECT
WOULD GET YOU
NOWHERE.



SO DO THIS
NOW AND YOU CAN
GET OUT OF HERE AND
BURY HER, AND THEN
YOU CAN GET ON
WITH YOUR LIFE.



YOU'RE
MARRIED...

YES.



YOU IMAGINE
WHAT IT'D BE
LIKE TO KNOW
YOU'D NEVER
SEE HER
AGAIN?



AAAAAAAAAAAAHHH!!!

FUCK!



"OR SO I WAS TOLD, AT ANY RATE."

"I DON'T REMEMBER THAT BIT AT ALL."





BECKY
NEVER HAD
A DIARY...

THEY
FOUND IT WHEN
THEY SEARCHED
YOUR APARTMENT.
THEY'RE EFFICIENT,
LIKE I SAID.

I'LL COME
BACK IN AN HOUR.
YOU CAN TELL ME
IF YOU'RE IN OR
OUT.

YOU
WHAT?

LISTEN,
WHO ARE YOU?
WHAT THE FUCKIN'
HELL DO YOU
WANT--?

MOST PEOPLE
JUST SIGN THE FORM.
SOME GET CLEVER,
START TALKING
ABOUT MONEY.

YOU TOOK
SOMEONE'S
EYES OUT.

WASN'T HARD TO FIND THE BIT
I WAS AFTER. IT WAS THE LAST THING
SHE WROTE. TOOK ME AGES TO
START IT, THOUGH.

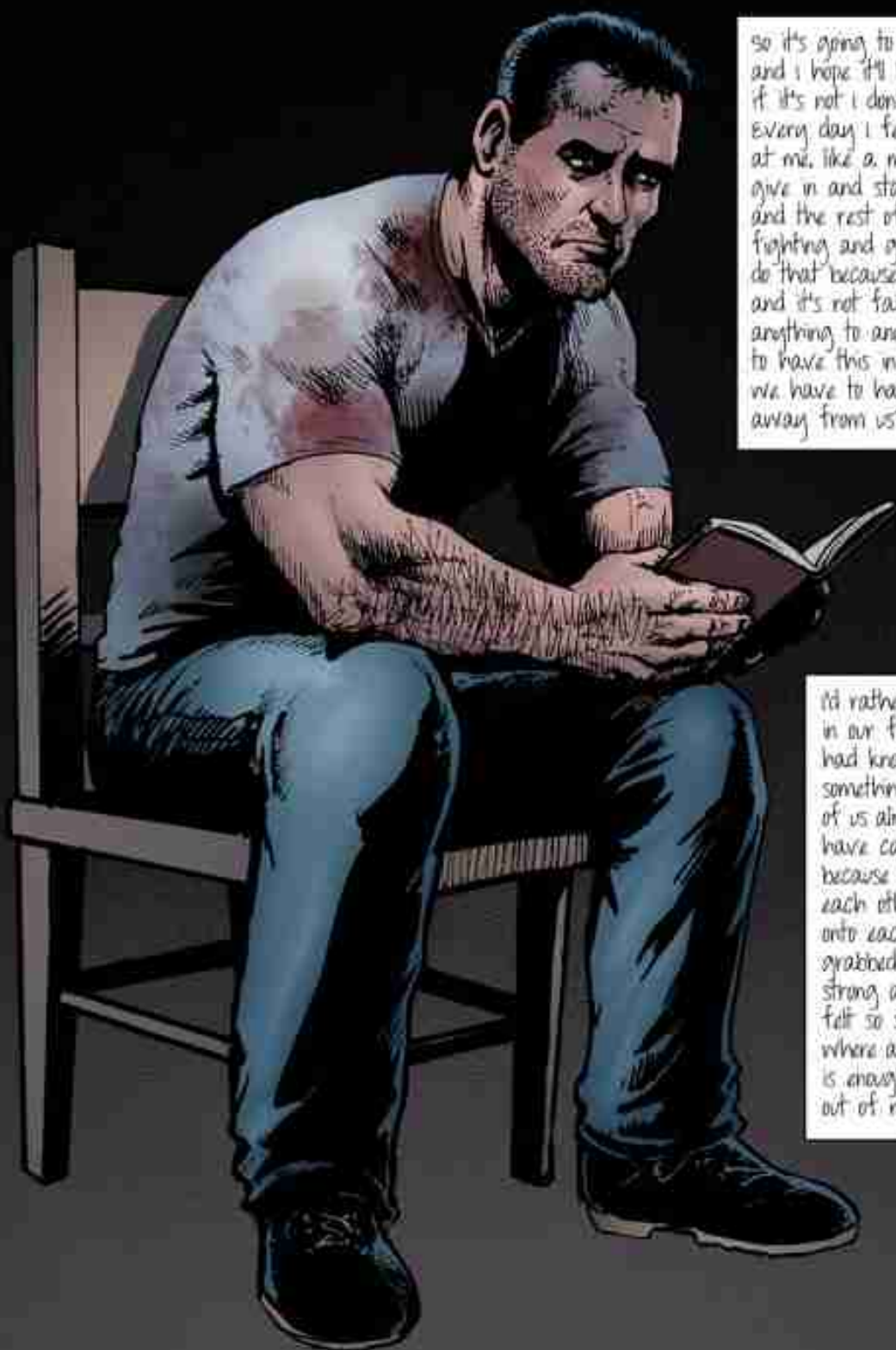
I WANTED
TO KNOW WHAT
HAPPENED TO
BECKY, BUT... THAT
MEANT I'D HAVE
TO *KNOW*.

I know it would be hard to write this down but it feels like I have to force the words out of the pen. Making myself remember the details makes me start shaking. I want to scream and be sick and throw a chair through the window and curl up in a ball and die. But I have to do it. I have to get it out or I really will go mad. I know I will.

It has to be this way because I can't tell anyone. If I do they'll think I've lost my mind, they'll never believe a word of it. I'll be locked up and the worst thing of all will be that Billy will find out. And the terrible thing is that he would believe me. He's the only one who could because he thinks I'd never do anything bad, never lie or whatever - and he'd believe me and he'd try to do something about it. He'd try and get the guy, and that would be the worst thing that could ever possibly happen.

so it's going to have to be like this and I hope it'll be enough because if it's not I don't know what I'll do. Every day I feel something pulling at me, like a massive temptation to give in and start the screaming and the rest of it - to just stop fighting and go mad. And I can't do that because it's not fair on Billy and it's not fair on me. I didn't do anything to anyone. Why do I have to have this in my life? Why do we have to have everything taken away from us?

I'd rather a bomb had blown up in our flat or an earthquake had knocked the walls down or something, and just left the two of us alive in the rubble. I wouldn't have cared about all our stuff because we would have still had each other and we could hold onto each other. I could have grabbed onto him and felt those strong arms go around me, and felt so safe - not like now where a single touch from anyone is enough to have me jumping out of my skin.



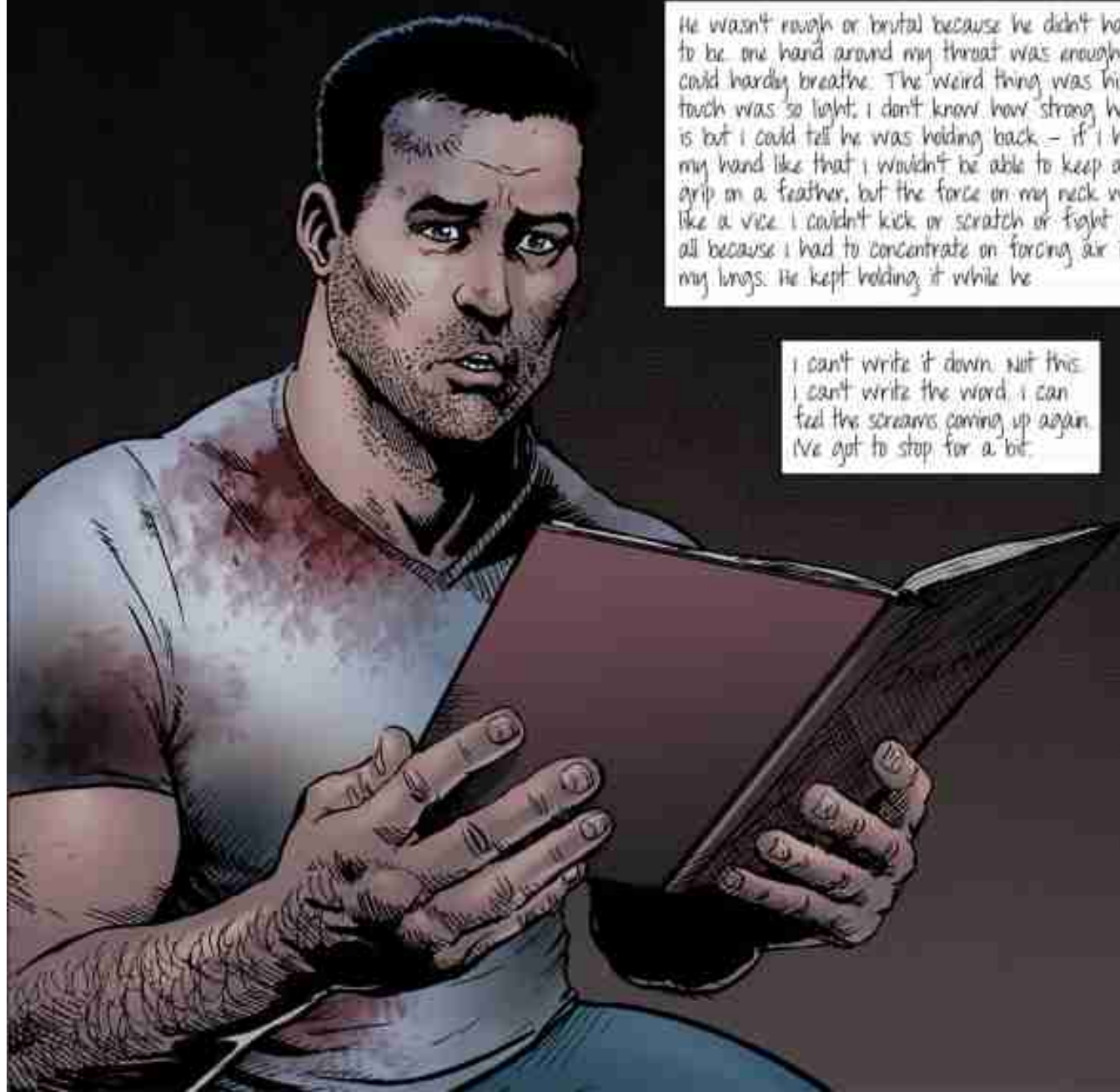
what happened was this. we were in miami and we'd just had dinner and Billy wanted to go for a walk, and i said no because i was really tired. i went upstairs to the room to read my book. i opened the window a bit because there was a breeze and i liked hearing the noise of the city.

i must have fallen asleep. when i woke up the window was wide open and there was a man standing at the end of the bed. i was a bit bleary when i opened my eyes but the bedside light was still on and i could see him properly. He was really tall, taller than anyone i've ever seen, and really big, and he was wearing an outfit with a cloak and a big plastic eagle thing on one shoulder, and i thought it had to be a dream. Then i remembered i'd seen him before, he was one of the superhero people we saw on the beach, and then i was sure i was dreaming.

But it was real and i knew i wasn't. He was smiling at me, he seemed really pleased and somehow i knew he'd been waiting for me to wake up. i couldn't speak - i wasn't scared, i was just trying to sort out my thoughts and fit all of this in my mind. All the things i should have been thinking, like why is this man in my room and what does he want and what should i do, none of it seemed as important as - this is a superhero. This is one of those people. i remembered what Billy said about them, but that thought went out of my head straightaway because this one didn't look stupid at all, not now that i was alone with him and he was smiling at me like this. That was when i got scared, and he saw it, and that was when he got onto the bed.

He wasn't rough or brutal because he didn't have to be. one hand around my throat was enough. i could hardly breathe. The weird thing was his touch was so light, i don't know how strong he is but i could tell he was holding back - if i held my hand like that i wouldn't be able to keep a grip on a feather, but the force on my neck was like a vice. i couldn't kick or scratch or fight at all because i had to concentrate on forcing air into my lungs. He kept holding it while he

i can't write it down, not this. i can't write the word, i can feel the screams coming up again. i've got to stop for a bit.



As soon as he'd gone and I could breathe again I jumped up and closed the window and got in the shower. I was terrified Billy would come back in the middle of it. I was terrified he'd find out. The rest of the holiday and the trip home were awful and I felt so bad for him - God help him, he couldn't work out what was wrong and I couldn't tell him. I had to just shut up and keep going, as best as I could, which is what I've been doing ever since.

When I got home I tried not to think about it, which was a bit like holding your breath - all you can think about is what you're concentrating on doing. One day at work I asked Sheila about superheroes. God knows what I told her but I knew her brother was into collecting comics and she told me about a shop in the West End that he goes to. I went in and asked. I remembered Billy found out this particular lot were called the Seven. I bought a few issues and I ripped up the first one as soon as I saw his face. Even the stupid little pictures were enough to set me off. But I made myself carry on. I had to know.

He's called the Homelander. He's supposed to be the greatest superhero of all, the strongest man in the whole world - and sort of a saint at the same time, he only uses his powers for good. Like a knight in shining armor crossed with Jesus Christ, into helping people and being honest and doing the right thing. It said at the back of the comic that the real life Seven are just like they are in it, and you could come back and read about them every month. The only thing is that I know the real life Homelander is completely and totally insane, because I looked up into his eyes while he was doing the thing he did to me, and I could see it there, and now I'm scared every second of every day.

So where does that leave me, and what does it leave for me and Billy? I don't know. I suppose that one day, maybe, just maybe, I might be able to let someone touch me again - I might be able to trust someone enough just to relax with them, and feel safe, and maybe even forget what happened. But at the moment, all I can see is this awful thing that my life has turned into stretching out forever, and I know deep down that something was stolen that night that I'm not getting back. Something was murdered, that's all there is to it.

But one thing I'm certain of - Billy can never find out. Because if he does that other side of him will come out and he'll go after the Homelander. I can beg and beg but it won't make any difference, he'll do it. And he'll get killed. Because I don't even know how you'd go about getting at someone like that, but if you ever did it would be like breaking into the White House and then trying to fight a thousand tigers all at once.



He would know that and he'd try it anyway. He'd use his life up with it. Oh, Billy, I never understood just what he sees in me. I know he thinks I saved him from a life of God knows what and I'm the greatest person alive, he's never done telling me. But I never thought I was really all that special.

I'm just a girl who
loves him, that's all.

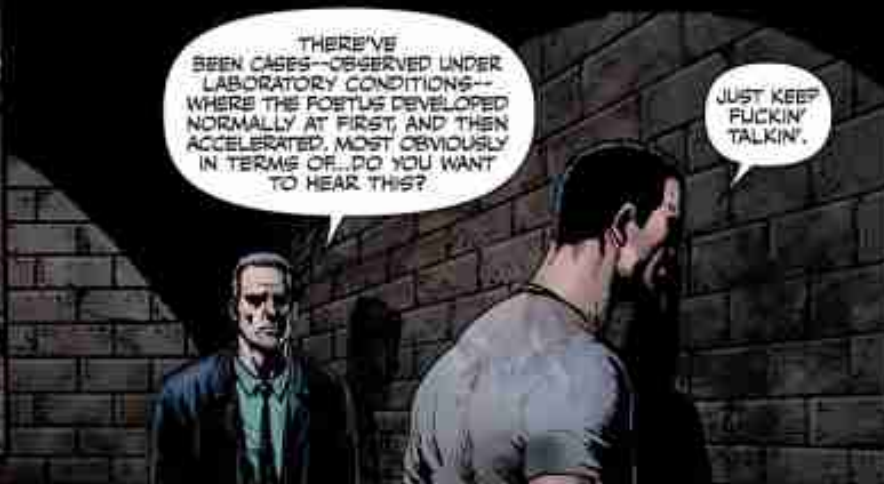
**OPEN
THE FUCKIN'
DOOR!!!**





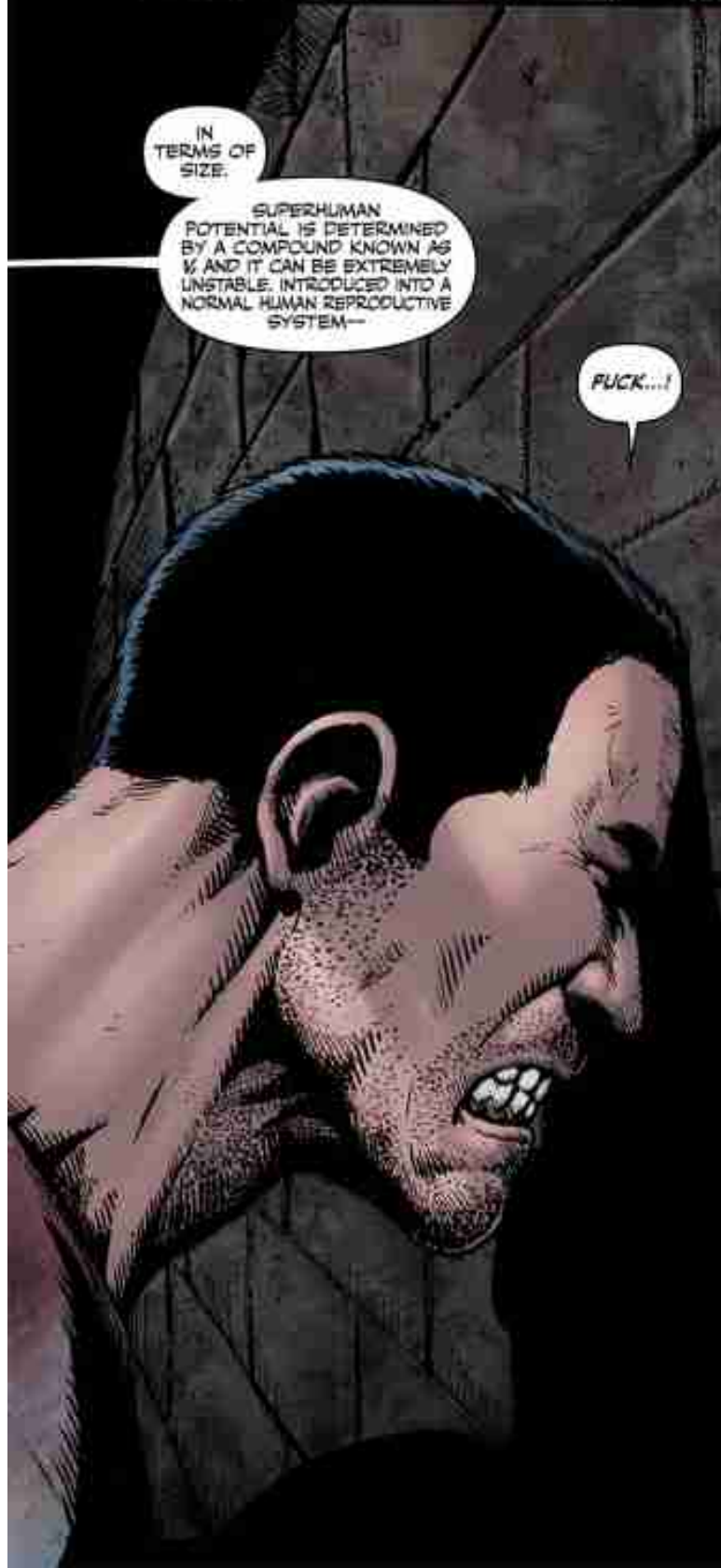
IT
WAS THREE
BLOODY
MONTHS...!

I KNOW.



THERE'VE
BEEN CASES--OBSERVED UNDER
LABORATORY CONDITIONS--
WHERE THE FOETUS DEVELOPED
NORMALLY AT FIRST, AND THEN
ACCELERATED, MOST OBVIOUSLY
IN TERMS OF...DO YOU WANT
TO HEAR THIS?

JUST KEEP
FUCKIN'
TALKIN'.



IN
TERMS OF
SIZE.

SUPERHUMAN
POTENTIAL IS DETERMINED
BY A COMPOUND KNOWN AS
V, AND IT CAN BE EXTREMELY
UNSTABLE. INTRODUCED INTO A
NORMAL HUMAN REPRODUCTIVE
SYSTEM--

FUCK...!



IF YOU GO
STRAIGHT AT HIM HE'LL
KILL YOU. THAT'LL SOLVE
ALL YOUR PROBLEMS,
BUT IT'LL MEAN HER
DEATH REMAINING
UNAVENGED.

BUT IF YOU
HAVE THE DISCIPLINE TO
WAIT--AND LEARN--AND
DO THE JOB I WANT
YOU TO DO--THEN I'LL
GIVE HIM TO YOU ON
A PLATE.



HOW THE
FUCK CAN YOU
DO THAT?

I'LL
SHOW
YOU.



IT'LL TAKE A LONG TIME TO SET UP. WHAT I HAVE IN MIND IS BARELY EVEN A BLUEPRINT AT THIS POINT; WE'RE TALKING YEARS, MAYBE EVEN DECADES.

BUT IF YOU TRUST ME NOW, I'LL SHOW YOU HOW TO DRAW HIM RIGHT INTO YOUR SIGHTS. SO THAT WHEN YOU DO GO, IT'S A KILLSHOT.

GUARANTEED.



I'M IN.



FIRST YOU QUALIFY.

MONEY AND PASSPORT. YOU'VE BEEN AN AMERICAN CITIZEN SINCE THIS MORNING.



HE DIDN'T WASTE MY TIME, SO WHY SHOULD I WASTE HIS?

DIDN'T BOTHER STATIN' THE OBVIOUS, LIKE THIS WAS BLACK BUDGET AN' NEED-TO-KNOW. WASN'T WANKIN' OFF TO THE SOUND OF HIS OWN VOICE, WHICH IS SOMETHIN' YOU GET USED TO WITH OFFICERS.



ALL IN ALL--

HE LOOKED LIKE HE FUCKIN' MEANT IT.



















I WAS GONNA
JUST BURN THE
PLACE TO THE
GROUND, TAKE
CARE OF IT ALL
THAT WAY.



BUT
I HAD THE IDEA
YOU MIGHT BE
TRYNNA SEND A
MESSAGE.



OH,
MAGIC.

THANKS,
BY THE WAY.

THANKS?



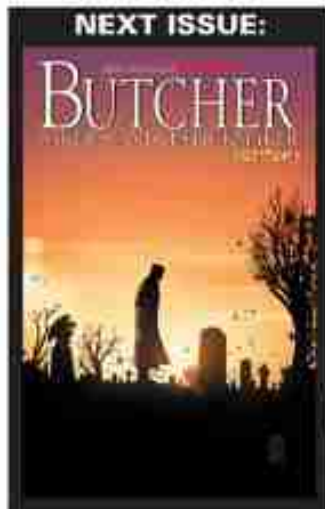
YEAH, I THINK
I JUST GOT ME
SENSE O' HUMOR
BACK.

TO BE CONCLUDED

DYNAMITE DISPATCHES

Hey, Dynamite fans! Have any questions or suggestions? Email: LETTERS@DYNAMITE.NET

NEXT ISSUE:



A new life begins in America, which turns out to mean life ending for a good many unsuspecting superheroes. Billy Butcher embraces his destiny with one final step into darkness, as Butcher, Baker, Candlestickmaker reaches its grim conclusion.

ASK DYNAMITE:

ASK DYNAMITE: Send letters to: letters@dynamite.net and mark them "ok to print!"

SPOILER ALERT IF YOU HAVE NOT READ BOYS #59!

Brad Writes: Why did you kill Terror? That was absolutely frickin' horrible. That dog was great. He was probably the coolest comic book dog ever. There's no need to kill off a dog to prove that a group of super heroes are a load of pricks. The last 59 issues have already proven that. You just don't screw with a good dog.

Tim Writes: Ennis, you prick, you killed off the goddamn dog! He was my 2nd favorite character, next to Butcher himself. I hated that tactic in Hondo, Big Jake, and whichever Road Warrior movie in which that happened. I'm gonna report you to the ASPCA!!! Sorry, but it's a cheap tactic! It works, but it sucks!

Brad and Tim are but a couple of our more... vocal fans that were none-too-pleased with the events of Boys #59... sorry, guys, but it was a helluva development, wasn't it?

Jason writes: Just wanted to say I am a huge Warehouse 13 fan and love the comics. It's my understanding that there's only going to be 5 issues in this correct and if it is why are there only going to be 5?

Right now our plans are for 5 issues, each featuring a rotating writer team from the show itself. We hope to do more, but fans need to get the word out about the book and get to the stores to grab their copies!

GLENN WRITES: Just have to say I am loving the various Warlord titles. Am a big Burroughs fan and nice to find a well done comic based on his work. Anyways, just want to say

thank you. I've been away from comics since late 70's (middle school) but finding the Dynamite stuff has got me hooked.

Thanks Glenn... you saw our recent news about Lord of the Jungle, yes? We can only assume that makes you and even happier reader and that makes us a happier publisher!

DYNAMITE IN THE NEWS:

DYNAMITE ON TWITTER!

We're putting in a renewed effort to get the Dynamite word out hour by hour via Twitter, check it: twitter.com/DynamiteComics. Thanks to everyone who's followed us in the last couple of weeks, let's keep it going!

DYNAMITE ENTERS INTO AGREEMENT WITH LITERARY PHENOM AMANDA HOCKING!

Dynamite is proud to announce that we have reached an agreement with Amanda Hocking and will publish Hollowland comic books in 2012!

Amanda Hocking is an American writer of paranormal romance young-adult fiction. Hocking lives in Austin, Minnesota. Employed as an assisted living worker until 2010, she wrote 17 novels in her spare time. In April 2010, she began self-publishing them as e-books. By March 2011, she had sold over a million copies of nine books and earned two million dollars from sales, something previously unheard of for self-published authors. To date, only five other authors have sold over a million digital e-books. In early 2011, Hocking averaged 5,000 book sales each day.

In Hollowland, Nineteen-year-old Remy King is on a mission to get across the wasteland left of America, and nothing will stand in her way - not violent marauders, a spoiled rock star, or an army of flesh-eating zombies.

"It's always been a dream of mine to bring the world of The Hollows to graphic novels," says acclaimed author Amanda Hocking. "I'm so fortunate to be able to partner with an amazing publisher like Dynamite to bring this dream to life."

"It is such a pleasure for Dynamite to be working with Amanda as she knows the world of comics," says Dynamite President and Publisher Nick Barrucci. "Amanda's success shows that hard work and passion pays off and we can't wait to see her incredible energy translated to comics!" Here's what people are saying about Hollowland:

"Anyone who has any interest at all in reading a well-told story needs to read this. It's fantastic, horrific, and strangely beautiful." - Robert Duperre, author of The Fall

"The action is non-stop. It starts on the first page and really doesn't let up at all, but not to the point where you get burnt out on it. And FINALLY we have a female lead that can do things for herself! Remy is strong

and courageous and does things her way to survive. There is some romance, but it's not like all the other romances in supernatural stories where the girl ends up not being able to do anything alone. It was SO refreshing." - Jessica at The Firefly Book Loft

DYNAMITE REVIEWS

VAMPIRELLA #10

(COMICSBULLETIN.COM): "Usually, a guest artist means unwelcome shoddiness. Not here. Khan Michael has an affinity for Vampirella, capturing her distinctive look while displaying her saucy toward monsters. Khan Michael demonstrates Vampirella's stamina and otherworldly speed."

THE BOYS #59

(COMICBOOKRESOURCES.COM): "Every now and then, Ennis drops a moment on you that becomes an instant classic. He does it many times over all his titles and here he does it yet again. It's a heartbreaking moment you won't enjoy in any sense of the word but you will respect the hell out of it. The Boys isn't a one trick pony and it refuses to be written off that easily."

THE BOYS #59

(COMICBOOKBLOG.COM): "Great plot movement. Finally some resolution. Good art and a great spark to a bonfire that should be quite memorable!"

THE BOYS #59

(BIFFBAMCRASH.COM): "This issue was full story and character development, great visuals, well written dialogue and evoked a lot of emotion. Well done Ennis. This is one of the best issues of The Boys yet, and it's set the stage for an all out war."

WARLORD OF MARS:

DEJAH THORIS #7

(WEEKLYCOMICBOOKREVIEW.COM): "Warlord of Mars: Dejah Thoris is exploring Barsoom in Burroughs' classic style. Well, well worth checking out."

JIM BUTCHER'S DRESDEN

FILES: FOOL MOON #4

(GEEKSOFDOOM.COM): "This series is worth buying. As is the one prior, based on Storm Front. And I'm pretty damn sure all the rest will be, too. So wander into your local comic or book shop and peruse one. You are going to love it. And once you get hooked on the comics, go buy the books...hands down. I've never met anyone who disliked them. With Jim helping to script the comics, you know they are guaranteed to be awesome!"

A GAME OF THRONES #1

(MAJORSPOILERS.COM): "I think fans of the book and television series will enjoy this reading as well!"

A GAME OF THRONES #1

(GEEKSOFDOOM.COM): "I would easily give this series to both comic and non-comic fans alike. I truly loved this adaptation!"

A GAME OF THRONES #1

(BROKENFRONTIER.COM): "Overall, the creative team delivers an enjoyable adaptation of the start of George R. R. Martin's expansive fantasy series."

THE LAST PHANTOM #9

(GEEKSOFDOOM.COM): "All around, a great comic. As I said, if you don't normally read The Last Phantom, this isn't a great issue to start with, but track down at least the previous two issues. They're worth the time and money!"

THE LAST PHANTOM #9

(CHRONICLEFORUM.COM): "Overall, very nice! Things are heating up action wise, the scripting is nicely paced, and Phantom lore is being dished out in tantalizing drips and drabs!"

TERMINATOR/ROBOCOP:

KILL HUMAN #3

(PROJECTFANBOY.COM): "You got Robocop in my Terminator! No, you got your Terminator in my Robocop! What, no one else remembers that commercial? Well, either way, the punch line is the same: two great tastes that taste great together!"

WARLORD OF MARS #10

(WEEKLYCOMICBOOKREVIEW.COM): "The plotting and counter-plotting has my interest and this issue did what a starting book in an arc should do, which is launch a story with enough momentum to get the reader to want to follow the arc. Artwork, Sadowski brought some different visions to the series. His pyramids and the fur of the Thems were intriguing, as was the hurtling flight of Carthoris and Tass Tarkas across the Martian wastes."

ROBERT JORDAN'S WHEEL OF

TIME: EYE OF THE WORLD #13

(NEWSARAMA.COM): "The book's dialogue comes out strong and in your face. You get the characters and their voices and the situation they are up against."

THE BOYS: BUTCHER, BAKER,

CANDLESTICKMAKER #3

(COMICBOOKRESOURCES.COM): "The first two issues were good and this one was fantastic. A pity we all know this happiness does not last so thanks to all for giving us at least this one entire issue to smile along with!"

WARLORD OF MARS #9

(WEEKLYCOMICBOOKREVIEW.COM)

: "Definitely buy Warlord of Mars #9 if you've got the rest. If you don't have the rest, I highly recommend the trade when it's out. Dynamite is doing some great work on Barsoom. Put on your hard hats and come on over!"